

25th

Capt. Wilson Parks Howell
25th AL Inf. Co. 1History of the 25th Alabama Infantry Regiment
BATTLE OF MURFREESBORO*Battle of Murfreesboro and falling back to Shelbyville, Tennessee
Where we spent the winter of 1862-1863**The leaving of Shelbyville and coming to Chattanooga ~ Battle of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge and Lookout
Point or the "Battle above the Clouds" in November 1863*This document for personal use only!

General Bragg having evacuated Kentucky, the Federal troops under command of General Rosecrans had been concentrated about Nashville and Bragg's army around Murfreesboro. Only about 25 miles lay between the two armies. So about the last of December Rosecrans advanced on Murfreesboro sufficiently near to offer battle. So on the morning of 31st December we accepted the challenge and at them we went.

The enemy were posted in line of battle on the opposite side of a plantation from us some 800 yards and we advanced on them through the open field under heavy artillery fire as well as musketry and our loss was very heavy in going through the field. Four men, Sid Phillips, Gus Pool, Charly Roper and Jack Ezzell of Company "I" were killed out right. Lieutenant Archibald Patterson of Company "H" was also killed and every company of the regiment met a similar fate, in killed and wounded.

Our line, in the face of their concentrated fire, got within fifty yards of their battery when our line gave way and stampeded back through the field and we suffered worse than while advancing.

Among the killed in that unfortunate stampede was Major Costello who had just been promoted from the Captaincy of Company "K". It looked for a time that all was lost and we had some difficulty in rallying the men and reforming the line of another attack.

I remember just at this critical moment General Frank Cheatham, Major General of Tennessee troops came rushing to our aid. Made such a stirring appeal to the men, that our line was soon formed and in the face of another galling fire we charged on them again and so determined were the men that we rushed upon them and captured their battery and drove back the whole line, but they soon reformed their lines and for the live long day we fought over an area of two or three miles and at night fall we had driven them off the field.

Our regiment was led in this fight by Lt. Colonel George D. Johnston who displayed great courage and leadership and won the high esteem and love of the officers and men of the line. At night fall, when the firing ceased he was the only field officer with the regiment.

Our loss in killed and wounded was very heavy. Lt. Scofield of Company "C" from Columbiana was among the killed. I remember during the fight, of coming across his body just after he had fallen, he having been shot dead and I stopped long enough to take a plain gold ring from his finger and his pocket knife and pocket book and preserved them till after the battle and sent them home to his family.

I think I went in that morning with about 40 guns in Company "I" and when the battle closed that night there was only one man Pvt. Bob Clark and myself with the regiment. Most of the others had been either killed, wounded or captured.

Our loss was so heavy, that we did not renew the fight next morning. Although we had the previous

ROPER

Descriptive List and Pay Account of a Deceased Soldier.

Descriptive List and Pay Account of Charles Roper Sergeant
 of Company B of 25 Regiment, Alabama Volunteers, was 25 years old blue

eyes, light hair light complexion 5 feet 7 inches

high, born in Calhoun County, in the State of Alabama and by occupation a

Farmer was enlisted on the 14th day of Octr. 1861

by Col. McCallan to serve for three years or during the war. The said Charles

Roper was last paid by Capt. V. B. Mardis 23rd to

include the 31st day of August 1862 and he has pay due him from that

time, to the time of his death, which occurred on the 31 day of Decr. 1862

in the battle of Mimbresboro There is also due him for clothing not drawn in kind

For pay from the 31st day of August 1862 to the 31st

day of December 1862 being four months and

days, at \$17, per month :

For commutation for clothing not drawn in kind \$68.00

There is also due him for retained pay \$25.00

He is also entitled to a bounty of \$50.00

Amount \$143.00

He is indebted to the Confederate States

Balance due \$143.00

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REPORT

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bc Dec. 28, to Jan. 4,

18

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Jan, 186 3.

Wc Killed

At Dec 31 186 2.

In of the first Charge

Re

Hopers, Charles W.

vt.

Co. I, 25 Regt. of Inf. Ala.

Subject: Medal of Honor

Battle of Murfreesboro'

General Order Number 131/3

Det 3

, 186 3

Adjutant & Inspector General's
Office, Confederate States, con-
tains information relative to
the man named, on the subject
mentioned above.



Stones River National Battlefield

3501 Old Nashville Highway

Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Phone: (615) 893-9501, Fax: (615) 893-9508

Regimental File Donation Form

Donor Name: JOHN HOLLINGSWORTH

Address: 8118 WILLOW BROOKE TER.

City: TRUSSVILLE State: AL Zipcode: 35173

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Significant Person's Name: Charles W. Roper

Unit: 25TH AL INF. Co. I

List Contents of Donation Below: